IN THE ABSTRACT

Please delete the current Abstract in its entirety and substitute therefor the enclosed New Abstract.

NEW ABSTRACT

A method of providing virtual local data storage for a user device that is connectable to a remote server via a network includes a storage application, which initiates a socket connection to the remote server. The application provides an application interface API for requests for storing auxiliary data from (other) applications in the user device. When a storage request is received via the API, the auxiliary data is stored on the remote server via the network. The new storage application may be built in a user device or memory extension, or may be provided as a downloadable plug-in or via an optical disc.